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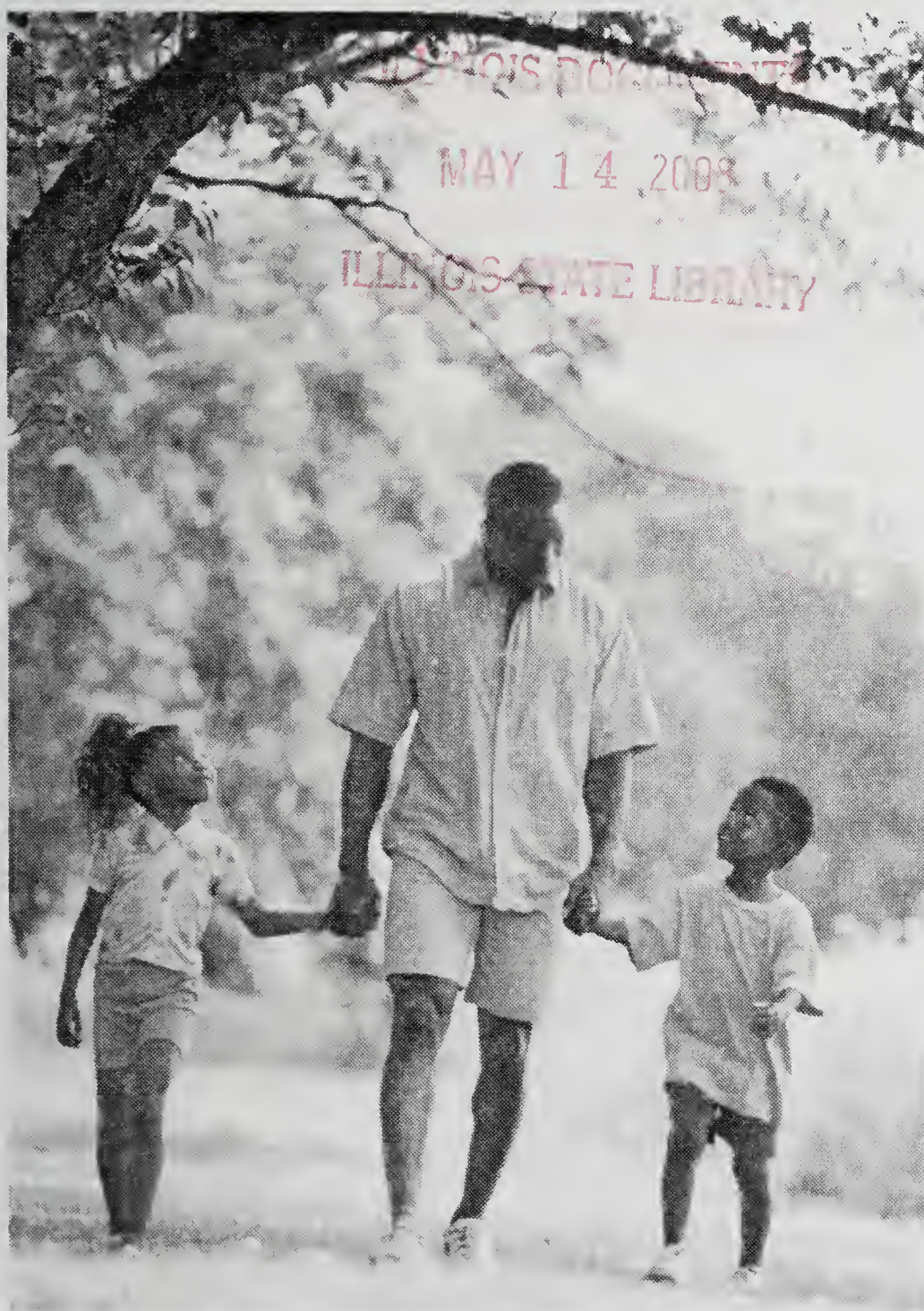
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of Illinois  
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor



Illinois Department of Healthcare  
and Family Services  
Barry S. Maram, Director

# Fathers are Important



Division of Child Support Enforcement

## **Responses from the experts.....**

"My dad is special because he plays lots of games with me and he is my best friend. He watches me play Play Station and watches TV with me."

**Anthony, Age 8**

"My Daddy is very special to me because he is my father and I only have one father and I love my father and he means something very special to me."

**Adam, Age 7**

"He will never let me down and will raise me right and help me have a good lovely life and keep me out of trouble."

**Michael, Age 8**

"Sometimes when I spend the night with my dad on the weekends, he takes us to Blockbuster and lets us pick out whatever movie we want... I love my father. If you were me, you could love him too."

**Corina, Age 8 ½**

"I love my dad because he's silly and nice."

**Blake, age 7**

"My Dad comes over every Sunday, and we have the best time ever!"

**Gabriela, Age 9**

# Ten Reasons To Be A Good Father

10. **So your kids stay in school**
  - Children with fathers in their lives are more likely to graduate
9. **So your kids won't abuse drugs and alcohol**
  - Children need fathers to teach them about the harm drugs and alcohol can do
8. **So your kids wait to have sex**
  - Fathers are role models for healthy relationships
7. **So your kids eat right**
  - Children's fathers can teach them about healthy foods
6. **So your kids get exercise**
  - Fathers can help their kids be active
5. **So your kids learn about their families**
  - Only you can pass down the traditions of your family to your kids so they feel welcomed and loved
4. **So your kids can be good parents**
  - Children who have good relationships with their fathers grow up to have good relationships with their own children
3. **So your kids will stay out of jail**
  - Children who have strong father figures are less likely to get involved in gangs and criminal behavior
2. **So your kids know you**
  - Every kid wants a father
1. **So your kids know they are loved**

## Fun Things To Do With Your Kids

1. Talk about school
2. Go to the zoo
3. Ask what they want to do
4. Build a model
5. Go to the library
6. Wash the car
7. Draw your dream house
8. Look at a magazine together
9. Talk about the future
10. Tell a favorite story from your school days
11. Tell a joke
12. Request your child's favorite song on the radio
13. Go to the park
14. Clean the house
15. Look at pictures
16. Talk about your child's friends
17. Play games
18. Get up early to watch the sunrise
19. Walk through the park
20. Ride the bus to a new part of town
21. Read the newspaper
22. Help with homework
23. Cook dinner
24. Plant flowers
25. Stargaze
26. Plan a party
27. Rake leaves and jump in them
28. Go swimming
29. Play pirates
30. Have tea party
31. Teach your child to dance

For more information about paternity establishment and other support services in Illinois, parents can call the Child Support Customer Service Call Center at 1-800-447-4278 or write the nearest regional Illinois child support office for the county in which they live. Persons using a teletypewriter (TTY) can call toll free at 1-800-526-5812.

Aurora Region  
380 E. Indian Trail  
Aurora, IL 60505

Belleville Region  
27 E. Main Street  
Belleville, IL 62220

Champaign Region  
313 N. Mattis, Suite 218  
Champaign, IL 61821

Cook County Operations  
32 W. Randolph, Room 999  
Chicago, IL 60601

Joliet Region  
16 West Cass St, 4th Fl.  
Joliet, IL 60432

Marion Region  
3419 Professional Park Drive  
Marion, IL 62959

Peoria Region  
2011 N. Knoxville Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61603

Rockford Region  
1114 Taylor Street  
Rockford, IL 61101

Springfield Region  
110 West Lawrence, 1st Fl.  
Springfield, IL 62704

Internet Address: [www.ilchilddsupport.com](http://www.ilchilddsupport.com)

Include your name, address and daytime phone number in all written inquiries

For more information  
about the  
Access and Visitation Program,  
Call Non-Custodial Parent Services Unit  
(312) 793-7987



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Fathers Figure

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